

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-6. (Canceled).
7. (Previously presented) A method of assigning uplink scrambling codes for use by a user equipment in transmitting packet data over a random access channel in a code division multiple access communication system, the random access channel being time divided into time slots, the method comprising:
 - defining a maximum number L of frames over which a specific data packet can be transmitted;
 - defining a set of N predetermined scrambling codes for the common packet channel where $N > L$; and
 - defining an association of the scrambling codes based on time slots, such that when one of the scrambling codes is associated with a specific time slot, the next L frames for the specific time slots are associated with different scrambling codes.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein L is a system design parameter and no packet may exceed L frames.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein L is a number of frames typically not exceeded by a data packet.
10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein L frames contains a set number of sequential radio frames, each radio frame having a set

number of time slots.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the set number of sequential radio frames is eight and the set number of time slots in each radio frame is eight.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the defined association repeats every L frames.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the random access channel is a common packet channel.

14-19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously presented) A controller for assigning scrambling codes for packet data being transferred over a channel in a wireless code division multiple access communication system, the channel being time divided into time slots, the controller comprising:

means for defining a maximum number L of frames over which a specific data packet can be transmitted;

means for defining a set of N predetermined scrambling codes for the channel where $N > L$; and

means for defining an association of the scrambling codes based on time slots, such that when one of the scrambling codes is associated with a specific time slot, the next L frames for the specific time slot are associated with different scrambling codes.

21. (Original) The controller of claim 20 wherein the controller is used by a base station to assign uplink scrambling codes.

22. (Original) The controller of claim 20 wherein the controller is used by a user equipment to determine a scrambling code for uplink communications.

23. (Original) The controller of claim 22 wherein the uplink communications are data packets and the channel is a common packet channel.

24. (Previously presented) The controller of claim 20 wherein L is a system design parameter and no packet may exceed L frames.

25. (Previously presented) The controller of claim 20 wherein L is a number of frames typically not exceeded by a data packet.

26. (Previously presented) The controller of claim 23 wherein L frames contains a set of sequential radio frames, each radio frame having a set number of time slots.

27. (Original) The controller of claim 26 wherein the set number of sequential radio frames is eight and the set number of time slots in each radio frame is eight.

28. (Previously presented) The controller of claim 20 wherein the defined association repeats every L